



Providing a Voice for Northeast Colorado

EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION PROJECT TE-2007-9

WHEREAS, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, a consumer-owned, not-for-profit wholesale power supplier owned in part by 18 Colorado electric cooperatives, and the Western Area Power Administration, a power marketing administration of the U.S. Department of Energy, have proposed a joint construction project to develop the Eastern Plains Transmission Project, a high voltage electricity transmission system across eastern Colorado; AND

WHEREAS, rural economic development in eastern Colorado relies on access to a supply of electricity not dependent on imports from other regions, and the EPTP will ensure that electric cooperatives, power authorities, municipalities and investor-owned utilities in eastern Colorado can serve their customers with a reliable, affordable and adequate supply of electric power; AND

WHEREAS, investments in infrastructure in eastern Colorado support a robust and stable tax base, and the construction, operation and induced benefits of EPTP will have significant fiscal benefits to rural local governments and school districts; AND

WHEREAS, eastern Colorado communities' plentiful renewable resource zones cannot be fully developed given the current electric system transmission constraints, and the development of EPTP will provide increased transmission capacity in eastern Colorado to facilitate renewable and conventional power development; AND

WHEREAS, the joint development of the EPTP, which has been coordinated with and meets the load serving requirements of other utilities, enhances regional electric system reliability and eliminates the duplication of transmission facilities and corridors in eastern Colorado; AND

WHEREAS, thorough community engagement must be incorporated into utility citing projects, and the EPTP developers have demonstrated their respect for affected communities and landowners with an open, transparent and responsive citing process;

WHEREAS, Progressive 15 discourages the use of eminent domain and encourages adherence to each affected counties land use procedures and rights; AND

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that PROGRESSIVE 15 supports the timely development of the Eastern Plains Transmission Project; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PROGRESSIVE 15 urges the Governor of the State of Colorado and his administration, Members of the Colorado Congressional Delegation, Members of the Colorado General Assembly, the Commissioners and staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, and our fellow citizens and local officials to support and work to expedite the development of the Eastern Plains Transmission Project.

Adopted 12 day of June, 2007